

CCIFA Weekly News

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**Revue de presse hebdomadaire/Përmbledhja javore e shtypit /Weekly press review
Activité hebdomadaire de la CCIFA /Aktiviteti javor i CCIFA /CCIFA Weekly activity**



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CCIFA Weekly News

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Une magnifique vidéo pour promouvoir « Mrizi i Zanave »

 **Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie France-Albanie** shared Milva Ekonomi's video.
Published by Blerina Kazhani [?] - August 16 at 12:25pm - 🌐



10,044 Views

Milva Ekonomi
August 16 at 9:43am - 🌐

Emili nga Franca me gjithë familjen e saj është e mrekulluar nga 'Mrizi i Zanave', një nga modelet më të mira të Agroturizmit në Shqipëri, që oron ushqime të freskëta nga ferma në tryezë..

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Vendi ynë nuk ofron vetëm det, natyrë, kulturë e histori, por dhe një kulinari të pasur dhe unike..”

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Gjergj KOLA EXPOSITION

Du 2 au 9 Septembre 2017



Vernissage le 2 Septembre à 17h


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All infos

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ficap

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ALBATROY 

ESPACE

26, PLACE DENFERT ROCHEREAU, PARIS 14

La Maison de l'Albanie a le plaisir d'accueillir l'exposition de l'artiste albanais Gjergj Kola du 2 au 9 septembre 2017.

Le vernissage aura lieu le 2 septembre 2017, à 18h00

Të dashur miq, njihuni me botën e verërave me revistën periodike "Alejandro WineNews".

Kuriozitete - Histori - Intervista - Cmimet më prestigjioze - Teknikat e prodhimit, etj...

<https://www.facebook.com/Alejandro-Wine-News-367412100260715/>

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A LA UNE CETTE SEMAINE/HIGHLIGHTS

Fierza Lake at its lowest point, as Albania's energy balance deteriorates (Klan TV)

The Fierza Lake is Albania's energy reserve, collecting water from the Drin cascade. The current drought has reduced water flow to extreme levels. Faredin Elezi, born and raised in Kukes, said he had not been the lake in that level for around 12 years. Faredin, who has lived even in Older Kukes, says if the drought continues with this pace, the ruins of the older town, which was flooded for the reservoir, may appear to surface. In the past 20 years this has happened only twice, once in 2002 and once in 2012.

National currency strengthened, Euro traded at an average of 132.5 Lek (Scan TV)

Europe's single currency remains weak in Albania's domestic market, though the Euro has strengthened in the foreign exchange markets. Following a slight appreciation trend by the end of last month, the Euro has kept weakening against the Albanian national currency Lek during this week. Data from the fixed exchange rate of the country's central bank shows the Euro dropped to as low as 132.45 lek this week, falling to its lowest level in past nine years. The Euro depreciation is expected to come to an end by the end of August as the tourist season will gradually wane. The Bank of Albania deems that the current intensity of the exchange rate appreciation, derived to a large extent by the rapid improvement of the balance of exchanges in trade and services and high foreign direct investment flows, will weaken.

Albania – Kosovo trade increase by 30% (Scan TV)

Trade exchanges between Kosovo and Albania during the 7-month period of the current year increased by about 30%. Albania's ambassador to Kosovo Qemal Minxhozi said that the 30% increase of trade exchanges between the two countries is good news. During January-July 2017, imports of goods from Albania to Kosovo rose to 82 million Euros as compared to 62 million Euros over the same period of 2016. Export of goods from Kosovo to Albania over the same period was about 27 million Euros, as compared to 19 million Euros over the same period of last year. "It's good news. According to statistics of economic exchanges between Albania and Kosovo, there is an increase of them from the two sides of the border by the two states. Kosovo has exported 30% more goods during the first 7 month-period of the current year. If in 2016, Kosovo exported to Albania 19 million and 500 thousand Euros goods, at the end of July, at the end of the 7 month period this year, it has exported 27 million and 800 thousand Euros. This is an increase of 36%, a very positive figure," Minxhozi said. He also emphasized that Albania exports to Kosovo increased by 31%. "Likewise, Albania's exports to Kosovo also got increased. If last year Albania exported 60 million Euros, this current year it has exported 82 million and 500 thousand Euros, equal to a 31% increase. This situation makes us optimistic. The trend of the 7-month period is a sign that 2017 will have the greatest increase of exports and imports between our two states," said Minxhozi. According to him, these data imply that the trade exchanges have begun to get increased and this is of importance for the two countries.

L'ACTUALITÉ

Private consumption increased by 1.9% in Q1 (Scan TV)

Official figures show that private consumption in the first trimester of the current year increased, but at a slower pace as compared to the previous trimester. According to the Bank of Albania, consumption expenditure increased by 1.9% in annual terms in the first trimester or about 0.2 point percentage less as compared to the fourth trimester of 2016. Experts evaluate that increase of private consumption was supported by the positive developments in employment sector, the facilitating conditions of crediting as well as the positive consumer confidence. On the other hand, the degree of consumer confidence has stood above the historical average level during the last three trimesters, suggesting a continuation of improving cycle of private consumption in the economy. The increase of private consumption is expected to continue even in the second trimester of the year at the same pace with the first trimester. Under these circumstances, experts appreciate that the economic revival of the country will continue even with a positive growth.

Economic growth boosted by producing sectors by 1.8 pp (Scan TV)

The Central Bank reported producing sector provided the highest contribution to economic growth in 2017 Q1 (around 1.8 percentage points). The added value of the sector accelerated the growth at 4.4%, from 3.9% in the previous quarter. The upward trend of its activity continued mainly determined by the performance of construction, contributing by 1.0 percentage point to the economic growth of the first quarter. Also, other activities included in the producing sector, such as 'industry' and 'agriculture, forestry and fisheries', provided a positive contribution, by 0.5 and 0.3 percentage point, respectively, to GDP growth. Meanwhile, the contribution of services sector accounted for around 1.6 percentage points, lower compared to 2.0 percentage points in the previous quarter. This reflects the lowering of the growth dynamic of services added value. Economic growth of the first quarter was supported by the component of net taxes, which provided a positive contribution of 0.6 percentage point.

TAP completes half of works on Albania onshore section (Top Channel)

The Trans-Adriatic Pipeline has already completed half of its Albania onshore route works and the project implementation is well on track to kick off the offshore section as scheduled. The natural gas pipeline, which will bring the Caspian gas to Europe, is in its peak construction stage and is expected to inject over 800 million euro in foreign direct investment in Albania, whereas over 2000 persons have been employed during the construction phase. TAP starts near Kipoi on the border of Turkey and Greece, and its Albania onshore section traverses the cities of Korça, Berat and Fier and it will traverse the Adriatic Sea to tie into Italy's gas transportation network in Southern Italy. First gas deliveries from Azerbaijan fields to Europe will start around early 2020. Construction of the TAP's offshore section remains on schedule to start in 2018 and works are expected to last several months.

Foreign investments in Albania, 30% of the total (Ballkanweb)

According to the UN, direct foreign investments have been significant for Albania's economic growth. In 2016, foreign investments in Albania reached 1.12 billion USD. This means that one for every three ALL that are invested in the Albanian economy, now comes from abroad. According to the trade session and development at the UN, this is one of the highest norms in the region. Foreign capital in Bosnia funds only 10% of total investments in the economy. In Bulgaria it reaches 7.8%. The average of Southeastern Europe is 26.3%. The influence of foreign investments in the Albanian economy has increased especially in the past five years. INSTAT says that investments for 2015-2016, especially for major projects with foreign capital, such as the Trans-Adriatic Pipeline and the Devoll Cascade, were the main source of economic growth. But the biggest concern of experts is about what happens after these projects are over. A few days ago, "Moody" warned that foreign investments in Albania could get lower in the upcoming years, if the country doesn't improve its business climate. According to Moody, this would make possible a diversification of foreign investments, especially in energy, tourism and agriculture.

Government Revises 2017 Budget (Top Channel)

Through a normative act, the Council of Ministers amended Wednesday night the budget of 2017. It seems that the main cause of the changes is the emergency in power supply caused by the prolonged drought this summer. Through the Normative Act, the government has increased by Lek 3 billion, approximately \$30 million the available electricity purchase fund, bringing it from Lek 1.5 billion to Lek 4.5 billion. Even the government's reserve fund has increased, which from Lek 1.5 billion has amounted to Lek 2.7 billion. Up to Lek 1.2 billion of this fund will be used for unforeseen cases of budgetary institutions by the Council of Ministers; Lek 500 million will be used for the establishment and functioning of new justice system institutions, and Lek 1 billion for dealing with natural emergencies. Meanwhile, the Normative Act sees growth in both revenue as well as budget spending. Revenues marked a growth of Lek 2 billion, roughly USD 20 million, from Lek 436.4 billion to Lek 438.4 billion. The budget deficit remains unchanged, which according to budget 2017 will be in the quota of Lek 31.1 billion. The increase by Lek 2 billion has also been recorded in the fund for local units, which is increased by Lek 2 billion, approximately 20 million USD.

Private Consumption Up by 1.9% (Scan TV)

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OECD: Albanians spend less on healthcare (Ballkanweb)

Albanians spend less than everyone else for healthcare services. This is suggested by the latest report published by OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development), according to which, expenses per capita in healthcare in Albania are 614 USD, ranking the country last in the region. Meanwhile, life expectancy in our country continues to be high, around 78 years and 9 months, ranking 27th in the OECD's list. Meanwhile, compared to the countries of the region, Albania has also the lowest expenses as percentage of GDP, namely 2.9%. Meanwhile, the US ranks first in terms of healthcare spending at 17.2% of GDP. On the other hand, OECD confirms that Japan is the nation with the highest life expectancy in the world with 83 years and 10 months. Japan is followed by Switzerland and Spain with a life expectancy of 83 years, followed by Italy and Iceland with 82 years.

Bids for Vlora-Fier Bypass to Reopen within September (Albanian Daily News)

Following the breaking of the contract in April with the company that would build the bypass of Vlora and that of Fier, it seems that the government is ready to reopen tenders for building these segments. According to the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, which has funded the original projects, the re-tendering of these contracts is expected to begin in the third quarter of 2017, ie by the end of September, differently from what was previously said that this procedure could be postponed until next year. For the remaining construction works, the government will not seek additional funding from the EBRD, but will use the remaining of loans and grants. Thus, for the Fier bypass (22 km) linking the Lushnje-Fier segment with that of Levan-Vlore and Levan-Tepelene, under construction, the government will use 48.8 million euros left over from the EUR 60 million loan of the EBRD and EIB. While for the Vlora bypass, the government will use 48 million euros left over from the loan of EBRD, EIB and EC Delegation, which have awarded a grant of 15.1 million euros. The 29km construction will connect the Fier-Vlora highway, passing through Babica and Kanina villages along the coastline, with the existing Orikuni-Saranda road. The Albanian Road Authority terminated the contract with the winning company Serenissima because the contractor had delayed the works that had to be completed in 2016 for the Fier bypass and this year for that of Vlora. Meanwhile, the Italian company has created a long list of debts and it is debtor with customs and a large number of subcontracted companies.

INSTAT: Albania exports grow by 9.4 % year-on-year in July (ATA)

Albania exports were valued at 25 billion lek in July, registering a 9.7 percent growth year-on-year and an increase of 9.4 percent compared to the previous month of June, according to data published by the National Institute of Statistics, INSTAT, on Thursday. INSTAT said in its latest Foreign Trade Report that imports were valued at 55 billion lek, registering a growth of 9.2 percent compared to the same period of 2016 and a decline by 3.7 percent compared to the previous month of June. INSTAT estimated that the trade deficit in July was 30 billion lek, up by 8.9 percent compared to the same period of 2016 and down by 12.3 percent compared to previous month of June. Exports rose by 9.7 percent year-on-year in July fuelled mainly by the growth in exports of textiles and footwear by 5.6 percentage points, construction materials by 3.6 percentage points, food, beverages and tobacco by 3.3 percentage points. According to INSTAT, Albania imported mainly construction materials and metals (+3.8 percentage points), minerals, fuel and electricity (+1.2 percentage points), textile and footwear (+1.2 percentage points). Meanwhile, Albania's trade deficit in the seven months of this year registered an increase of 1.4 percent year-on-year, totalling to 192 billion lek. According to INSTAT, the country's exports during first seven months rose by 12.9 percent on the year amounting to 158 billion lek, whereas imports increased by 6.3 percent amounting to 350 billion lek.

Albania's trade exchanges with EU countries occupy 66.9 % of its total (Scan TV)

Albania's trade exchanges with the EU countries occupy 66.9% of all the country's trade exchanges during January-July 2017 period. According to the Institute of Statistics the exports to the EU countries occupy 77.4% of all exports and imports from the EU countries occupy 62.2 % of all the imports. The main trading partners are Italy (37.6 %), Germany (7.1 %), Greece (7.1 %) and China (6.2 %). During the first seven month period of the year, the countries with which Albania has recorded the highest increase of exports as compared to last year are Italy (7.8 %), Kosovo (28.4 %) and Spain (175,8 %). While the countries with which the exports have been reduced are Bulgaria (-7.4 %), Switzerland (-44,3 %) and Croatia (-33,8 %). In regard to imports, during the first seven month period of the current year, Albania has experienced an increase as compared to last year with Italy of (4.9 %), Greece (12.3 %) and Turkey (16.5 %). While the countries with which the imports have been reduced the most are Germany (-5.7 %), China (-9,1 %) and France (-8,8 %).

ERE to OSHEE: Energy Must Be Purchased Online (Monitor)

Energy Distribution Operator (OSHEE) must have a platform ready for the purchase of energy online within September 30 of this year. According to a decision of the Energy Regulatory Entity (ERE) taken in June of last year, OSHEE must implement purchase of energy online in order to reduce the costs, but the Operator was not able to respect these time-limits, applying bids with negotiation to purchase energy. OSHEE has reported to ERE that the working group has been established to this purpose, for the purchase of energy online, and the procedure with the object of "building an electronic platform of publishing of the data of buyers and sellers in function of energy sale/purchase" has been established as well. The economization of energy purchase becomes necessary during this period when the crisis of energy production has increased expenses for import. Great amounts of energy procurement abroad and in an emergency situation have caused the prices of energy import to be several times higher than in the regional stock exchange. ERE's regulation approved last year seeks the creation of an IT platform online that must be used by OSHEE for all its actions with the traders of electric energy in the process of purchase. This platform must be accessible for online users. OSHEE must direct the calendar of offers and keep the register of traders of electric energy. All offers, the time of presentation, and details of offers must be kept in a system for a five-year time-limit. The presentation of offers by traders of electric energy is done online in the system according to a predetermined entry on the day of the presentation of offers. The time of opening and closing must be published in the Calendar of Offers. Energy import has cost about Euro54 million in the last two months and more spending is expected because of the draught that is hindering local production.

Les sources de cette semaine/The Source

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NEWS 24

GAZETA SHQIPTARE

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